

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE Transmittal Cover Sheet

Application Serial No:

10/017,445

Confirmation No.:

6377

\$ 1634

Date Filed:

December 14, 2001

Application Title:

Methods For Determining Organisms Not Requiring The

Separation Of Fixative Or Excess Probe

Applicants:

Rigby et al.

Group Art Unit:

1634

Examiner:

Sally A. Sakelaris

Action Date:

March 25, 2003

Action Type:

First Office Action On Merits - Non-FINAL

Certified Mail No:

7003 0500 0000 1731 7017

Certificate of Mailing Pursuant to: 37 C.F.R. §1.8

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Patent Application, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on this 23rd day of July, 2003.

Brian D. Gildea Reg. No. 39,995

Commissioner for Patents

Enclosed herewith, please find the following documents and sheets.

- 1. Petition Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a) for a one-month extension of time.
- 2. Response to the Office Action mailed on March 25, 2003 with integrated amendment and request for reconsideration of claims, withdrawal of rejections and issuance of a Notice of Allowance.
- 3. New IDS with PTO form-1449.

Respectfully submitted On behalf of Applicants,

Brian D. Gildea; Reg. No. 39,995